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ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

June 28, 2022

Ms. Kristi Godden
Counsel for the Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District
O'Hanlon, Demerath, & Castillo
808 West Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

OR2022-18526

Dear Ms. Godden:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 955672 (ORR# 22-019).

The Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District (the "district"), which you represent received a request for information pertaining to the requestor's child. The district claims the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses section 58.008 of the Family Code, which provides, in part, the following:

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), law enforcement records concerning a child and information concerning a child that are stored by electronic means or otherwise and from which a record could be generated may not be disclosed to the public and shall be:

(1) if maintained on paper or microfilm, kept separate from adult records;

(2) if maintained electronically in the same computer system as adult records, accessible only under controls that are separate and distinct from the controls to access electronic data concerning adults; and

(3) maintained on a local basis only and not sent to a central state or federal depository, except as provided by Subsection (c) or Subchapter B, D, or E.

...

(d) Law enforcement records concerning a child may be inspected or copied by:

...

(4) the child's parent or guardian.

(e) Before a child or a child's parent or guardian may inspect or copy a record concerning the child under Subsection (d), the custodian of the record shall redact:

(1) any personally identifiable information about a juvenile suspect, offender, victim, or witness who is not the child[.]

Fam. Code § 58.008(b), (d)(4), (e)(1); *see also id.* § 51.03(a)-(b) (defining “delinquent conduct” and “conduct indicating a need for supervision” for purposes of title 3 of Family Code). Section 58.008(b) is applicable to records of juvenile conduct that occurred before, on, or after September 1, 2017. The juvenile must have been at least 10 years old and less than 17 years of age when the conduct occurred. *See id.* § 51.02(2) (defining “child” for purposes of title 3 of Family Code). The submitted information involves two offenders, one of whom is the requestor's child and the other is a juvenile. Thus, the information falls within the scope of section 58.008(b). If the requestor's child was also a juvenile, then the requestor has access to the information pursuant to section 58.008(d) of the Family Code. *See id.* § 58.008(d)(4). Thus, we must rule conditionally. If the requestor's child was not at least 10 years old and less than 17 years of age when the conduct occurred, then the requestor does not have access to the submitted information pursuant to section 552.008(d)(4) of the Family Code and the district must withhold it from her under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 58.008(b) of the Family Code. If the requestor's child was at least 10 years old and less than 17 years of age when the conduct occurred, then the requestor has access to the submitted information pursuant to section 552.008(d). If the requestor has access pursuant to section 58.008(d)(4), then the district must withhold the personally identifiable information concerning the other juvenile offender under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 58.008(e)(1) of the Family Code, but release the remaining information. *Id.* § 58.008(e)(1).

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/members-public/what-expect-after-ruling-issued> or call the OAG's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Public Information Act may be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the OAG, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,

James L. Coggeshall
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JLC/eb

Ref: ID# 955672

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)